

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

^{B5}
13. (Twice amended) A composition comprising a polypeptide according to claim 8¹¹ or an antibody according to claim 9], in association with a carrier.

Please amend claim 14 as follows:

14. (Twice amended) A conjugate comprising a polypeptide according to claim 8¹¹ or an antibody according to claim 9], fused to a [further] therapeutic or cytotoxic agent.

Please amend claim 15 as follows:

^{B6}
15. (Twice amended) The conjugate of claim 14⁴ wherein the [further] therapeutic agent is a toxin, [another] ~~a TIE ligand~~, or a [member of the] vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) [family].

Please add the following new claims:

- ^{B6}
--23. An isolated polypeptide comprising the sequence of amino acids 270-493 of SEQ ID NO: 2.--
--24. A conjugate for immunization of a mammal comprising a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 and a protein that is immunogenic in the mammal to be immunized.--
--25. A conjugate for immunization of a mammal comprising a polypeptide comprising the sequence of amino acids 270-493 of SEQ ID NO: 2 and a protein that is immunogenic in the mammal to be immunized.--

I.

Support for the Amendments

The amendments in the specification are of formal nature, and serve to correct certain typographical errors, or to reflect that the polypeptides disclosed in the present application are not necessarily required to bind the known TIE receptors, and, therefore, it is more appropriate to refer to them as "TIE ligand homologues" as opposed to "TIE ligands." The amendments in the claims are believed to be self-explanatory. Specific support for claims 24 and 25 is at least at page 21, lines 17-24. The amendments do not introduce new matter into the specification or claims.